

Rhea J. Côté Robbins

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PROFILE:

Liaison between educational institution and community. Supervise volunteer community writers/editors throughout the Northeast and work study students Experience with radio, television, and print media. Work extensively with several University academic departments and units. Interacts with a broad constituency in the private and public sector. Panel and program development. Marketing, distribution, and fund-raising capacities. Currently teaching courses online in relation to literature and writing. In depth experience in teaching writing, with emphasis on comparative literature, cultural/diversity knowledge and creative nonfiction. Educator at youth, adult and university levels. Creative, innovative communications professional with many years experience in all aspects of cultural diversity work and publishing, editing, designing and writing for publication distributed in classrooms and community. Successful Grant Writer. Published author.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE—Overview

Faculty, Teacher, Author, Cultural/Diversity Liaison, Communications Coordinator, Editor, Free Lance Writer, Computer Design, Consultant, Artist

EDUCATION & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:

University of Maine at Farmington, Farmington, Maine,

L.H.D., Honorary Doctorate of Human Letters (2004)

Recognition of Community Work

University of Maine, Orono, Maine

M.A., Liberal Studies, Creative Writing (1997)

University of Maine, Orono, Maine

B.S., Education, Secondary English (1985)

Bilingual Education Scholarship/Graduated with Honors

University of Maine, Presque Isle, Maine

A.A., Liberal Studies, with concentration in Art (1982), Dean's List

Achievements:

- Adjunct Faculty, Assistant Professor, in cultural studies, literature, and writing-- classroom and web:
 - Franco-American Women's Experiences
 - Contact Literature: Native and Emigrant Stories
 - Memoir: Writing of the Self in Creative Nonfiction
 - Women's Studies, English
- Founder/Director of Franco-American Women's Institute
- Published author, lecturer, workshop presenter
- Experienced in computers, desktop publishing, networking, Macintosh/Windows
- Versed in HTML and creating pages on the WWW, Blackboard, Etc.
- Teacher of GED/ABE, literacy, Librarian, parenting, writing, literature
- Culturally aware through editing of internationally known publication
- Experience with education process and creating awareness of socio-cultural interests and issues through community connections, publishing, and presentations
- Guest lecturer on many topics of socio-cultural focus
- Innovative with non-profit based program development, publications, and creative solutions working with volunteers
- Aware of diverse community, legislative, cultural, and educational entities
- Fund raising/Grant writing

CERTIFICATION:

Maine Teaching Certificate in 7-12/Adult English/Social Studies/L-Arts and K-12,
French
MHRT/C Community Certification, in process
Wilson Reading System

EXPERIENCE:

- Adjunct Faculty, Assistant Professor, University of Maine, Orono, 1999 to present (Franco-American, Women's, University, & Maine Studies, English)
- Instructor, Husson University, KVCC, English
- Bangor Mental Health Institute, Teacher; Supervisor of Interns
- Charleston Correctional Facility, Teacher, Librarian, Group Facilitator, Crew boss
- Instructor, MWPA workshops
- Free lance work creating bibliography, writing articles, design work, web pages, etc.
- University of Maine, Franco-American Ctr., Communications Coordinator, Editor, *Le FORUM*, Supervise work study students, community volunteers and editors
- University of Maine, CED Instructor, MS Word, Pagemaker, Desktop Publishing
- Free Lance Writer/Photographer, *The Brewer Register*, Brewer, Maine
- Long-term Substitute, English, Bangor High School, Bangor, Maine
- Substitute Teacher, Brewer High School, Brewer, Maine
- Student Teacher, Brewer High School, Brewer, Maine. English
- Casco-Northern Bank, Night Settlement/Savings/Payroll
- Maine Blue Cross & Blue Shield, Key Punch/Data Entry, Computer Operator
- Fox and Ginn, Inc., Payroll Assistant: payrolls, taxes, knowledge of union contract

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS:

Center/ITV Assessment Advisory Committee, 2009
Le conseil academique/Franco-American Studies Committee, 2000-present
Maine Franco-American Studies Alliance, 2001 to present
University of Maine System Distance Learning Council, 2006-present
Somali Narrative Project, Evaluator
Member of Maine Made Products Program, ongoing
University of Maine System Diversity Committee, member, 1998-present
University of Maine System UC/ITV/Online Assessment Committee, 2009
Franco-American Women's Institute, Founder, Director
Maine Women's Studies Consortium
Maryann Hartman Award Committee 1998-99
Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure Grants Review Committee, 1999-2008
Maine Writers and Publishers Alliance
other past memberships:
Women's Business Development Corporation, Leadership Development Committee
Member, Maine Breast & Cervical Health Program Special Populations Committee
International Women's Writing Guild
LIFRA, La littérature franco-américaine
Committee Member, Women's History Celebration, 1992-1999
Committee Member, Women and Class: Can We Talk?, Women's Studies Consortium
Former Board of Directors, Women's Resource Center, UMaine
Maine Enterprise Option

LANGUAGE:

French

PRESENTATIONS/SEMINARS:

American Council for Québec Studies, ACQS, Burlington, VT: Franco-American Roundtable: Silence and Suffering, Author panel presentation. November 4-7, 2010,

Les Canadiens aux États-Unis : culture, Économie et Canadians in the United States: American Dreamers in their Social and Economic Context, Université de Montréal, 12-13 mai 2010, Congrès de l'ACFAS—l'Association francophone pour le savoir; Panel: "Ceux qui choisirent": Les Franco-américains aux États-Unis/"Those who chose": Franco-Americans in the US. Presentation: "The Franco-American Women's Project: Borders and Beyond." May, 2010

"Franco-American Women's Words in Maine," Maine Festival of the Book, Portland, Maine, April 9-11, 2010

University of Maine at Augusta, Humanities 350, Franco-American Culture, March 2010

Women in the Curriculum and Women's Studies Program Spring 2010 Lunch Series, University of Maine, "Franco-American Women's Project, Borders and Beyond: Report From the Classroom" Rhea Côté Robbins, Author and Adjunct Professor, Women's Studies with graduate students, February 2010

Maine History Camp, Maine Humanities Council, Lewiston, ME, Summer 2009

Community Readers, Glenburn School, Glenburn, Maine, March, 2008.

Burst the Bubble, "Engaging Dialogues; Diversity in Waterville and Beyond," Colby College, Waterville, Maine, Panel Moderator, February, 2008.

Libra Professorship, Writing Workshop, University of Maine at Fort Kent, Fort Kent, ME, November, 2008.

ECHOES, 20th Anniversary, Presque Isle, ME, July 2008.

Waterville Author's Book Talk, Waterville Public Library, Waterville, ME, May 2008.

Women's History Celebration Publication Celebration, University of Maine, Orono, March 2008

Honors Course, University of Maine at Farmington, Farmington, Me, March 2008

Rencontre, Franco-American Heritage Center, Lewiston, Maine, March 2008

Voyages A Maine Franco-American and Acadian Reader & French Connections: A Gathering of Franco-American Poets Book Launch
Franco-American Center, University of Maine, Orono, February 2008

Kennebec Chaudière Corridor: A Cultural Heritage Tour October 5-8, 2007
Artist Talk, Maine Humanities Council, October 2007

The Bangor Book Festival, Bangor Maine, October 5-7, 2007

First Year Seminar, Romance Languages and Literatures, Bates College, September 2007

WERU 89.9FM, Writers Forum, 10:00 AM, Producers/hosts: Dr. Betty Duff and Joan Clemons, August 2007

The National Women's Studies Association Conference, "Past Debates, Present Possibilities, Future Feminisms," June 28-July 1, 2007, St. Charles, Illinois
"Franco-American Women's Literary Tradition: Canuck and Other Stories"

Launch of Canuck and Other Stories, Lewiston Public Library, May 2007

Presentation, French Club, UMF, Farmington, April 2007

Launch of Project Maine-France, Calumet Club in Augusta, April 2007

Maine Humanities Council Literature and Medicine: Humanities at the Heart of Healthcare© "Close to Home," Sebasticook Valley Hospital, March 2007

FAHC, Lewiston, Maine, Maine Franco-American Writers, March 2007

Bangor Public Library, "Fathers & Daughters: The Franco-American Way," January 2007

University of Maine, Book Launch, Canuck and Other Stories, December 2006

Colby College, Waterville's Franco-American Heritage: A Series of Events, December 2006

Women's Studies Conference, University of Maine, Orono, Maine, November 2006

Franco-American Women's Voices, Keene State College, Keene, NH, October 2006

Burst the Bubble, Colby College, Keynote, October 2006.

Gender, Race and Class, Bangor Theological Seminary, Bangor, Maine, October 2006.

LIB 500, Exploring Interdisciplinarity, University of Maine, Orono, Maine, September 2006.

Maine Social Forum, Write Your Way To Freedom, Creative Non-fiction, July 2006.

People's Poetry Project, Camden Public Library, July 2006.

Kiwanis, Breakfast Meeting, "Franco-Americans: Past, Present and Future," July 2006.

Good Old Fashioned Franco-American Soirée, K of C Hall, Old Town, Maine, June 2006.

Faculty Institute, University College/University of Maine at Augusta Campus, Augusta, Maine, Presenter, May 2006

Bates College, "French in Maine" course presentation, May 2006

La Rencontre, Franco-American Heritage Center, Lewiston, Maine, Presenter, May 2006

Westbrook Historical Society, Westbrook, Maine, Presenter, May 2006

Colby Presents "Burst the Bubble, Build a Bridge" Week, Presenter, April 2006

Great Falls Forum, Lewiston Public Library's Marsden Hartley Cultural Center, Lewiston, Maine, April 2006

The Third International Women in French Conference, Closing Banquet, Performances and Roundtable Discussion: Franco-American Arts in New England, University of New Hampshire, Durham, New Hampshire, April 2006

History of Women in Maine, "History of Maine Women: where are the Franco-American Women?", Gorham campus, University of Southern Maine, March 2006

Maine Women, WST201, Online course forum, University of Maine, Orono, Maine, Presenter, February 2006

Intro to Cultural Studies, Bates College, Lewiston, Presenter, October 2005

WIC Brown Bag Luncheon Series, FAWI's 10th Anniversary, University of Maine, Orono, Presenter, October 2005

Annual Conference of the Maine Genealogical Society, "Roots to Success," Fairfield, Maine, Presenter, October 2005

Intro to Women's Studies, University of Maine, Orono, Presenter, October 2005

Intro to Women's Studies, University of Maine, Orono, Presenter, September 2005

"Writers of Maine," University of Maine, Orono, Maine, July 2005

Fourth New England Regional Minority Health Conference, "Eliminating Health Disparities by 2010: Assessing our Impact and Meeting the Challenge," Presenter, Portland, April 2005

Writer's Forum, WERU, <http://www.weru.org/audioarchives.html>, May 2005

Franco-American Culture, University of Maine at Farmington, Farmington, April 2005

Blaine House, Maine Poetry Month, Invitee, Augusta, April 2005

Burst the Bubble, Colby College, Panel presenter, April 2005

Franco-American Autobiography, University of Maine, Orono, Presenter, March 2005

Gender, Race, and Class, Bangor Theological Seminary, Bangor, Presenter, March 2005

Welcome Center, Maine State House, Augusta as part of Women's History Celebration, March 2005

Multicultural Forum, Colby College, Waterville, Presenter, February 2005

Maine Libraries Conference, What's New in Diversity Books, Presenter, October 2004

Cultural Diversity Speaker Series, Presenter, University of Maine at Machias, October 2004

"A Life in the Borderlands/La Frontera": Remembering Writer Gloria Anzaldúa, 1942-2004. Women in the Curriculum and Women's Studies Program Brown Bag Lunch Series, Presenter, University of Maine, Orono, Maine September 2004

"Writers of the Future," Franco-American Conference, Franco-American Heritage Society of Kennebec Valley, Organizer/Presenter, September 2004

"Writers of Maine," University of Maine, Orono, Maine, July 2004

Longfellow & The Forging Of American Identity, A Two-Year Institute for Maine & Massachusetts Teachers, National Endowment for the Humanities, Maine Humanities Council, July 20 - 25, 2003 & July 11 - 16, 2004, Bowdoin College, Brunswick, Maine

"Terre pis Ciel," Franco-American Festival, Writer's Tent, The Fields of Albert & Connie Saint Pierre, Jay, Maine, August 7, 2004

Franco-American Studies, Participant, National Endowment for the Humanities Grant, University of Maine, Orono, Maine, January & June, 2004

Women's Studies Research Retreat, Presenter, Angell Cove Cottages, Leeds, Maine, June 3-4, 2004

"Interdisciplinarity in Our Maine-Related Courses," LEARNING CIRCLES 2003-2004, Participant, University of Maine, Orono, Maine

Commencement Speaker, University of Maine at Farmington, Farmington, Maine, May 2004

Colby Education Senior Seminar, Interviewed, South End History, Waterville, Maine, Colby College, April 23, 2004

Community Poetry Celebration, "KEEPING OUR PLACE, Bringing the words on the shelves to life," Presenter, Bucksport Memorial Library, April 18, 2004

"The Francos of Waterville Telling Their Story," Screening of film, Colby College, Waterville, Maine, April 15, 2004

Core Connections Lecture Series, Women's History Month, Presenter, University of New England, Biddeford, Maine, March 3, 2004

"Voicing the Unvoiced: Publishing the Writings of Franco-American Women," Presenter/Participant, Maine Franco-American Studies Lecture Series, National Endowment for the Humanities Grant, University of Maine, Orono, February 14, 2004